

Minutes  
Redevelopment Agency  
Special Meeting  
Wednesday, September 16, 2009  
5:00 pm – Town Manager's Conference Room, Town Hall

- 1) Call To Order – The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Chair Kuckro
- 2) Roll Call/Attendance/Quorum (3 Required) – Members in attendance: Kuckro, Thompson, Camilliere, Zaleski and Soja. Also in attendance: Town Manager Bridges, Councilor Walsh, Town Planner Gillespie and Assistant to the Town Manager Palmer
- 3) Public Comments – No one present.
- 4) Discussion of Priority Redevelopment Sites – Mr. Gillespie distributed an updated list of the top 6 potential redevelopment opportunities in Town and noted that the Comstock Ferre site had been added into the discussion as a result of recent conversations with the owner. Town Manager Bridges expressed his interest in having a community dialogue regarding the issue presently facing Old Wethersfield as a result of several recent business closings particularly Comstock Ferre. RaeAnn Palmer stated that she will be soliciting a proposal from a local community organizer/facilitator who would have access to student assistance for neighborhood involvement. A conversation ensued regarding the importance of this effort
- 5) Discussion of Redevelopment Plan Proposal – Bartram and Cochran – Discussion started with the present situation in Old Wethersfield and the recent vacancy of Comstock Ferre and other properties in that part of Town. Mr. Kuckro raised the question as to

whether the Agency should consider getting involved in these issues? After a lengthy discussion it was determined that the Town should support these issues but it might be more suitable to have the Town Managers office or others leading this effort. Mr. Soja suggested that the Town should seek a proposal from the community organizer and determine how best to address the issues facing Old Wethersfield.

Mr. Kuckro suggested that although the Agency supports the need to assist Old Wethersfield the Agency has limited resources and should continue to focus on issues surrounding the Silas Deane Highway and the Berlin Turnpike by trying to work with the owners or representatives for properties such as the former CL and P property on Cumberland Ave or the former Weight Watcher's property on the Silas Deane to determine the level of interest in working with the Redevelopment Agency. A discussion ensued regarding whether the Agency needed to bid out another RFP in order to move the process forward. Mr. Soja motioned in regards to either the CL and P and/or Weight Watchers properties 1. Have Mr. Gillespie put together a timeline for another RFP bid for a Redevelopment Plan, 2. Talk to the Town Attorney as to whether the Agency is required to bid the proposal again, and 3. Have Rae Ann Palmer get a price proposal for the community involvement process for Old Wethersfield. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion and the vote showed all members in favor.

- 6) Executive Session – There was no business to discuss.
- 7) Other Business – There was no other business to discuss.
- 8) Next Meeting - October 1 at 5:00 p.m.

9) Adjournment – Mr. Thompson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:53 pm, Mr. Kuckro seconded the motion with all members voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted

Peter Gillespie

Town Planner